Sentiero

part 1

Inariya Fusanosuke

translation: chinpirako, chou
keksimonsteri, yugiri

graphics: veja24

HER BODY HAD FROZEN SO FAR INTO WHITENESS,
THAT I COULDN'T REMEMBER THE FORMER SOFTNESS OF HER LIPS.
稲荷家房之介
センデイビーボ
小径

OF THE FOREST AIR
THE BITTER COLD
AND THAT BOY,
HUNG THERE LIKE AN OMEN.
AND THE FORTUNE-TELLER'S INAUSPICIOUS READING OF THE STARS
HIS EYES-
WHO I HAD THOUGHT WOULD BE MY BROTHER-IN-LAW.

ズル
ズル
WHAT WAS IT AGAIN?
ズル
HOW DID THINGS TURN OUT THIS WAY?
AH BUT-

小径
Sentiero

稲荷家
Fusanosuke Inariya
房之介

前編 First Part

THEY'RE GONE.
ALL OF THEM.
I WANT A CIGARETTE?
THAT'S DANGEROUS.

EH?
PEW
WHOA, SCARY.
SMOKING STANDING UP IS LIKE SAYING, "HEY, MY HEAD'S RIGHT HERE!"
YOU GOT LUCKY BECAUSE THAT WAS A DIFFICULT UPWARD SHOT.
BUT IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE,
DON'T STAND UP NEXT TO THOSE SIGNS.
THOSE...
Yipes!
THAT'S WHAT THEY MEAN?
and to think, I've been seeing them everywhere...
YOU SAID YOU'D STAY
EVEN THOUGH YOU KNEW THAT LITTLE ABOUT THE AREA?

"LA MORTE"?*
*"DEATH"
BECAUSE YOU'RE A COMPAE-SANO.*
*FELLOW TOWNSMAN
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS GOING TO BE WITH ME,
YOU SAID YOU'D STAY
IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US NOW...
FROM THE FALL OF 1942 THROUGH THE WINTER OF '43,
THE GERMAN ARMY, HAVING SUFFERED A CRUSHING DEFEAT IN THE BATTLE OF STALIN-GRAD,
BEGAN ITS GENERAL RETREAT FROM THE VAST, FROZEN LANDS OF RUSSIA.

この作品のご感想、稲荷家房之介先生へのお便り待ってます
〒102-0072 東京都千代田区飯田橋2-7-3 竹書房「騎人」稲荷家房之介先生係

AS WE DISCUSSED THIS MORNING,
YOU'LL GO THIS WAY, LIEUTENANT.
I'LL HEAD TOWARDS THIS EDGE HERE.
OKAY
I DON'T CARE IF YOU CAN'T HIT ANY-ONE
AFTER YOU FIRE A SHOT, PLEASE FALL BACK RIGHT AWAY.
WHAT ARE TALKING ABOUT?
DESPITE HOW IT LOOKS, I AM YOUR SENIOR
IN BOCCA AL LUPO!*
*~BREAK A LEG
A WAR OF JUST US TWO.
RUSSIAN TROOPS ARE EXPANDING FROM THE NORTHWEST IN A FAN FORMATION,
PUTTING THE HILLY AREA WE OCCUPY UNDER SIEGE
IN ORDER TO MAKE A SMOOTH WITHDRAWAL, IT IS IMPERATIVE WE DON'T ALLOW THEM
TO TURN THEIR ATTENTION TO THE SOUTH MOUNTAIN ROAD ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE RANGE
IN SHORT, WE WANT TO TRICK THEM
INTO THINKING OUR FORCES ARE STILL STOPPED HERE.

THEN,
I'LL STAY.
LEAVING A PLATOON HERE JUST TO PUT ON AN ACT
IS SUCH A WASTE
I CAN BUY SOME TIME BY MYSELF.
SO PLEASE SEND THEM BACK CLOSER TO THEIR HOMETOWNS, EVEN IF JUST BY A LITTLE.
BUT LIEU-TENANT VERRIO,
AN AREA THIS WIDE, ALL BY YOURSELF? YOU-
IN THAT CASE,
I'LL STAY TOO

"LA MORTE".
HIS SHOTS BRING THE ENEMY CERTAIN DEATH,
WAS BOTH INSULTING AND PRECISE.
THE NICK-NAME HE'D BEEN GIVEN
BUT AT THE SAME TIME, THEY PROVOKE AN INTENSELY HOSTILE RESPONSE.
LUCA!

CAME TO THE FRONT TOO?
YOU
YOU REALLY HAVE NO INTEREST IN YOUR HOME TOWN, DO YOU?
AH- NO, I ... YOU WERE ATTACHED TO A DIFFERENT UNIT, AND WE NEVER HAVE SNIPERS HERE, SO...
I'VE BEEN HERE TWO WEEKS ALREADY, LIEU- TENANT
HEY, LOOK, IT'S "LA MORTE".
I HEAR THE TWO OF THEM ARE GONNA STAY HERE AND BRING UP THE REAR.
WELL THEN,
THAT ASSASSIN GUY WHO'S AN ANGEL OF DEATH TO BOTH SIDES?
AND IF IT ISN'T HIS *RELATIVE*, MISTER FIRST LIEUTENANT WITH HIM.

AT LEAST WE SHOULD GET SOME USE OUT OF THEM IN THE END.
LIEU-TENANT!
YEAH, I'M OKAY.
SURE ENOUGH.
THAT'S WHY THEY CALL HIM "DEATH"
I'LL HEAD AROUND THEIR RIGHT FLANK!
I HAVE TO DISPERSE THEIR FIRE!

ENOUGH!
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY.
IT'S AN ORDER
BUT...

WATCH OUT FOR NAILS.
-OOF
HOW LONG SHOULD WE KEEP THE FIRE GOING?
MOST PLACES KEEP THEM LIT UNTIL DAWN.
FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN OUTSIDE HERE,
THEN,
THIS ISN'T ENOUGH.

LUCA
ARE YOU STILL ANGRY?
I'LL GO LOOK FOR SOME STUFF TO BURN
CAREFUL WITH YOUR LANTERN.
MAYBE THOSE RUSSIAN ARMY GUYS HAVE GOTTEN SUSPICIOUS
I MADE HIM STOP HIS COUNTER ATTACK
BUT-
MAYBE I'VE WASTED HIS BRAVERY.

THAT'S WHY
I'M NO GOOD AS AN OFFICER.

HONESTLY.
STILL THE SAME SANCTI-MONIOUS,
SELFISH PERSON AS EVER
To be continued.